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Agenda item 138 (a)

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY ASPECTS OF THE FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS: FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING OPERATIONS

Support account for peace-keeping operations

Draft resolution submitted by the Rapporteur

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/258 of 3 May 1991, 47/218 A of 23 December 1992, 48/226 A of 23 December 1993, 48/226 B of 5 April 1994, 48/226 C of 29 July 1994, 49/250 of 20 July 1995 and 50/221 of 11 April 1996 and its decisions 48/489 of 8 July 1994, 49/469 of 23 December 1994 and 50/473 of 23 December 1995,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the support account for peace-keeping operations 1/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 2/ and the views expressed by Member States,

Reaffirming the need to continue to improve the administrative and financial management of peace-keeping operations,

Noting the recent notable decline in peace-keeping expenditure and recognizing that this should, in due course, lead to a commensurate decline in

1/ A/50/876, A/C.5/50/62 and A/C.5/50/65.

2/ A/50/897.

backstopping requirements funded through the support account for peace-keeping operations,

Recognizing the need for adequate support during the liquidation and termination phases of peace-keeping operations,

1. Takes note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the support account for peace-keeping operations; 1/

2. Takes note also of the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions; 2/

3. Approves, on a provisional basis and for the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997, the proposals of the Secretary-General with regard to post and non-post resource requirements as contained in his report of 29 February 1996 3/ and with regard to the proposed funding mechanism as amended by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in paragraphs 35 to 37 and annex II of its report, subject to the provisions of this resolution;

4. Requests the Secretary-General, in the context of his revised estimates for peace-keeping operations, which are subject to budgetary fluctuations as defined in resolution 49/233 A of 23 December 1994 to present it with information on the impact that such fluctuations would have on the support account;

5. Also requests the Secretary-General, in this regard and on the assumption that the overall level of peace-keeping activities remains at current levels, to present revised resource estimates for the support account by 15 November 1996, with a view to reducing, to the extent possible, the post and non-post requirements for the backstopping of peace-keeping operations at Headquarters and, to a commensurate level, the number of officers on loan by Member States to the Department of Peace-keeping Operations, to reflect the recent notable decline in peace-keeping expenditure;

6. Further requests the Secretary-General to provide a performance report on the operation of the support account in the context of its annual consideration of his support account proposals, including information on redeployments, if any, between units;

7. Requests the Secretary-General, in preparing his annual proposals for the support account and taking into consideration the temporary nature of the current level of resources, to review and substantiate comprehensively the entire post and non-post requirement for the support account;

8. Also requests the Secretary-General, in preparing his report on the support account for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998, to present a

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3/ A/50/876.

comprehensive proposal on the total requirement for human resources from all sources of funding for the backstopping of peace-keeping operations, including posts financed from the regular budget, trust funds, officers on loan from Member States and other voluntary contributions during the period from 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997, to enable the General Assembly to decide on the level of human resources required, including whether such posts should continue to be financed by means other than through assessed contributions;

9. Further requests the Secretary-General, in preparing his report on the use of the support account for the period from 1 July 1997 to 30 June 1998, to present proposals that reflect as closely as possible the overall evolution of peace-keeping budgets and any additional relevant observations and recommendations regarding the lessons learned from the previous year of operation of the support account;

10. Decides, in particular, in the context of its consideration of the above-mentioned proposals, to review the operation of the funding mechanism referred to in paragraph 3 above, taking into account past experience and the decline in the level of peace-keeping activities, on the understanding that, unless otherwise decided, the funding mechanism contained in paragraphs 3 to 5 of its resolution 49/250 of 20 July 1995 will be restored as at 1 July 1997;

11. Reiterates the provisions contained in paragraphs 8 and 9 of its resolution 49/250 and paragraph 7 of resolution 50/221 of 11 April 1996;

12. Also reiterates its request to the Board of Auditors to keep under review the issue of the role and use of extrabudgetary resources, including the use of loaned personnel by departments and offices at Headquarters supporting peace-keeping operations, in particular the issue of the impact on the geographic distribution of staff in the Secretariat, and to report thereon to the General Assembly as appropriate;

13. Again recalls its resolution 48/226 C, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, no later than 1 September 1996, a detailed report on various aspects related to the provision of personnel by Member States on loan to the Department of Peace-keeping Operations;

14. Decides to keep the proposed transfer of 26 posts from the support account to Section 3, Peace-keeping operations and special missions, and section 26B, Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts, of the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 4/ under review and to consider the issue further in the context of the first performance report on the programme budget to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session;

15. Reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to present in each report on the support account information on the establishment and use of trust funds, including the scope of activities financed by them;

4/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/50/6).

16. Requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the transfer of posts from the Office of Human Resources Management to the Department of Peace-keeping Operations be fully implemented by no later than 30 June 1996;

17. Decides to abolish the following posts:

(a) One General Service post in the Executive Office of the Office of the Under-Secretary-General of the Department of Peace-keeping Operations;

(b) One General Service post in the Peace-keeping Financing Division of the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts;

(c) Two General Service posts in the Mail Operations Unit of the Buildings Management Service of the Office of Conference and Support Services;

(d) Two General Service posts in the Electronic Services Division of the Office of Conference and Support Services;

(e) Twelve posts from departments other than the Department of Peace-keeping Operations to be determined by the Secretary-General and at least two from the Department of Administration and Management;

18. Decides also to establish the following posts:

(a) Two Professional posts at the P-5 and P-3 level in the Audit and Management Consulting Division of the Office of Internal Oversight Services;

(b) Six Professional posts at the P-4 level in the Mission Planning Service of the Department of Peace-keeping Operations, subject to post classification review and full observance of normal recruitment procedures.

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Agenda item 116

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman

Implementation of the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the budgetary process as adopted in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and subsequent relevant resolutions,

Recalling its resolutions 50/214 and 50/215 of 23 December 1995,

Reaffirming that changes in mandated programmes and activities are the prerogative of the General Assembly,

Recalling its authorizations for the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in 1996 in respect of newly mandated activities in Haiti, Guatemala, El Salvador and Rwanda, 1/

Recalling also its requests that the Secretary-General provide a report, no later than 15 May 1996, on possible means of absorption of the related costs within the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997, 1/

Recognizing that the expenditures relating to the newly mandated activities in Haiti, Guatemala, El Salvador and Rwanda are extraordinary in nature and are governed by the procedures specified in paragraph 11 of annex I to resolution 41/213,

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1/ See, inter alia, A/50/913 and A/50/914.

Noting that the General Assembly has approved commitment authority amounting to 24.7 million United States dollars for activities in Haiti, Guatemala, El Salvador and Rwanda in 1996,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on possible means of absorption, 2/

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;

2. Notes that the Secretary-General stated in his report that he could not absorb any additional amount beyond the reductions of 154 million dollars required to maintain expenditures within the approved appropriations and that he anticipated that new approved and prospective mandates might require an additional 120 million dollars during the course of the biennium;

3. Reiterates that the Secretary-General's authority to implement any proposal to change mandated programmes and activities is subject to the prior approval of the General Assembly;

4. Requests the Secretary-General, subject to fully implementing all mandated programmes and activities as required by General Assembly resolution 50/214, to submit a further report to the Assembly no later than 1 September 1996 containing proposals on possible means of absorption in the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997, including, inter alia, in part II thereof and in the area of staff costs where savings might arise from the implementation of the early separation programme during 1996-1997;

5. Decides to revert to the issue of appropriations in the context of the first performance report;

6. Authorizes the Secretary-General, in responding to the requirements of resolution 50/86 B of 3 April 1996 concerning Haiti, to enter into further commitments of 1,767,300 dollars gross (1,606,200 dollars net of staff assessment) for the period from 1 June 1996 through August 1996;

7. Also authorizes the Secretary-General, should the General Assembly decide to extend the mandate of the International Civilian Mission to Haiti beyond 31 August 1996, to enter into commitments through December 1996 in an amount not exceeding a monthly level of 627,900 dollars gross (567,700 dollars net of staff assessment).

2/ A/C.5/50/67.